



National Transportation Safety Board

The NTSB Safety Mission: From Investigation to Recommendation

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Board Member

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen
July 16, 2014



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

- 1) determining the probable cause of transportation accidents**
- 2) making recommendations to prevent their recurrence**





All Modes

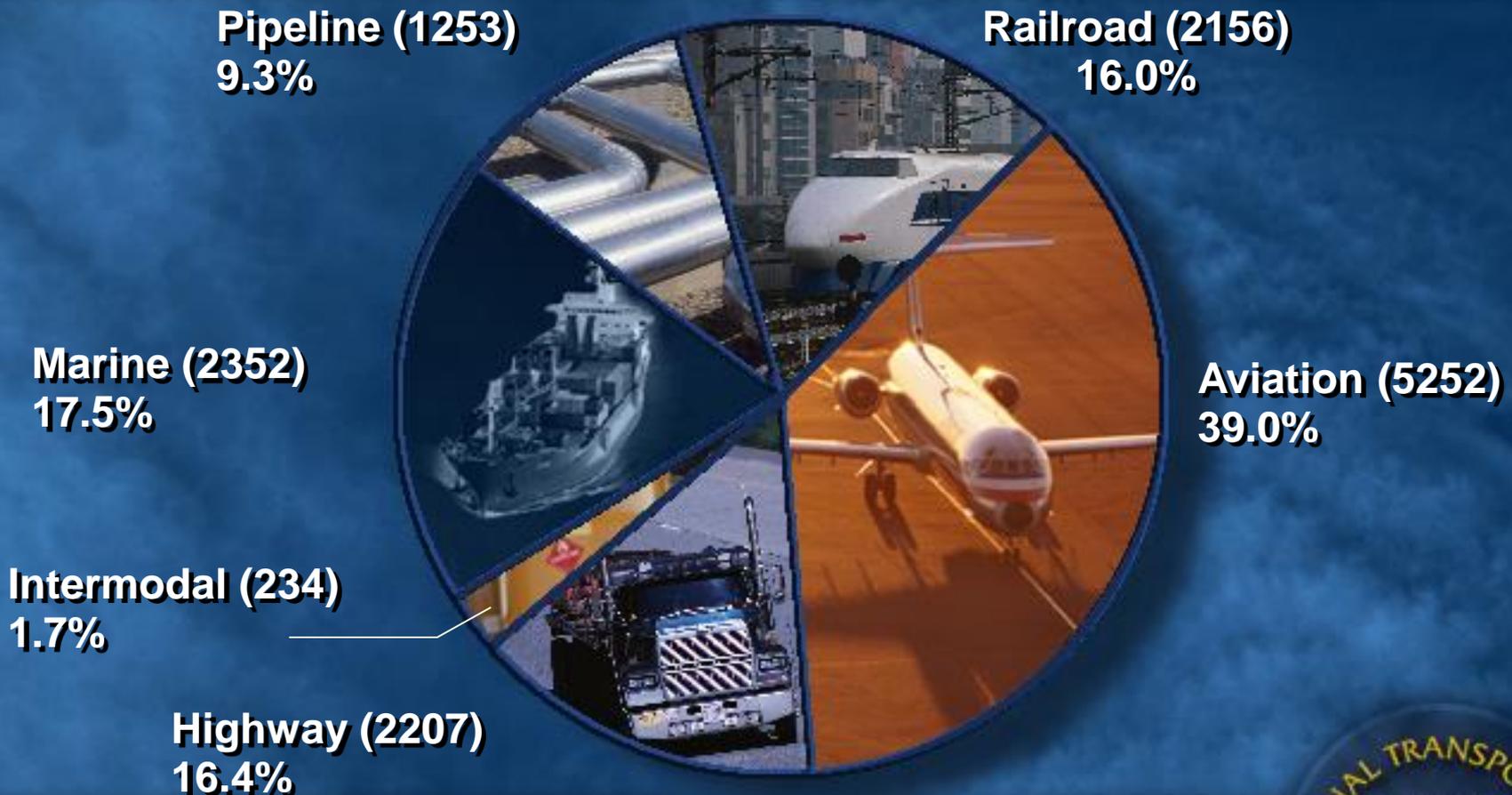


Independent Federal Agency: Created in 1967

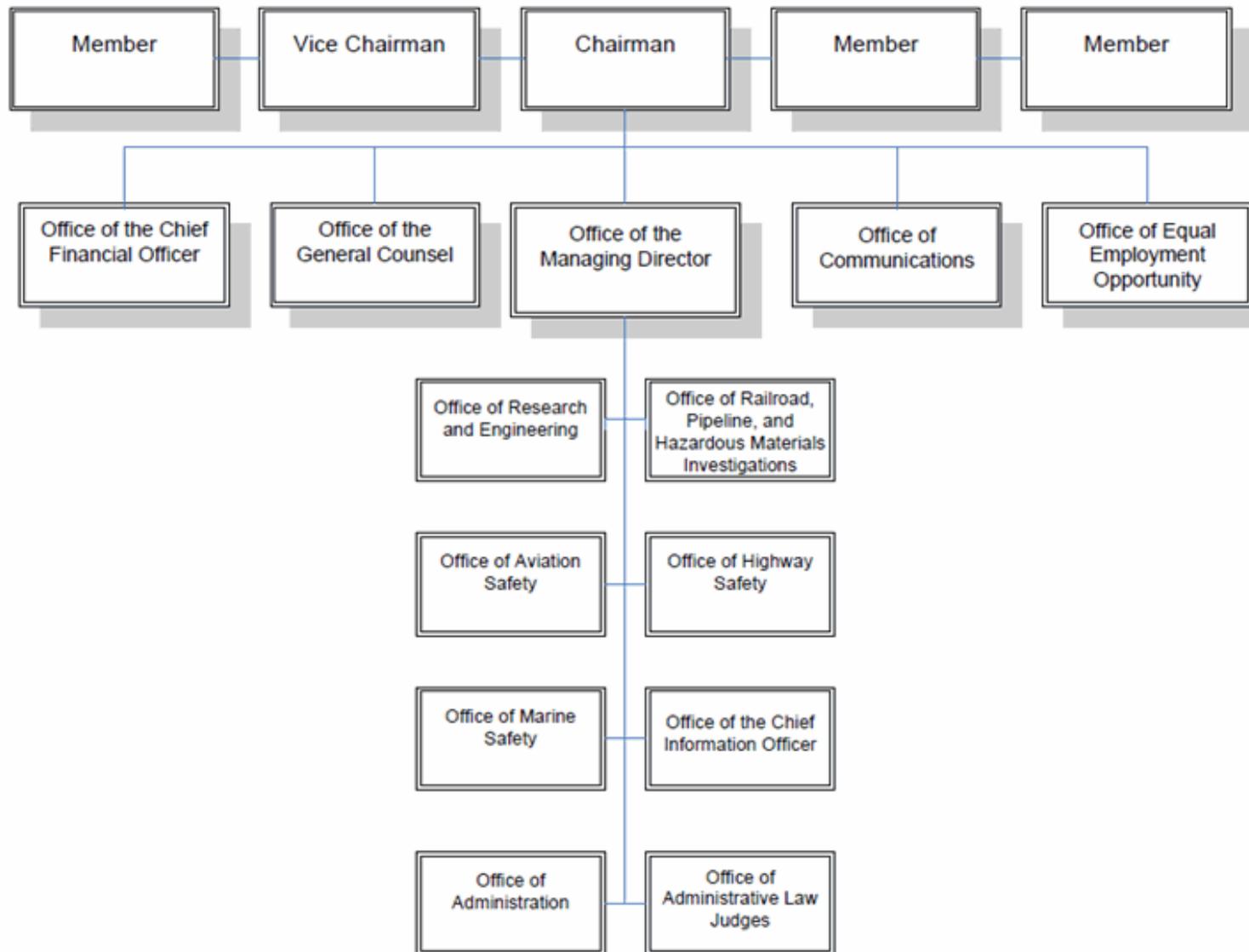
- >132,000 accident investigations
- 13,500+ safety recommendations
- ~ 2,500 organizations/recipients
- 82% acceptance rate



13,454 Safety Recommendations issued since 1967



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD



NTSB: The Board

- Five Members:
 - President nominates
 - Senate confirms



Earl Weener
Member



Robert Sumwalt
Member



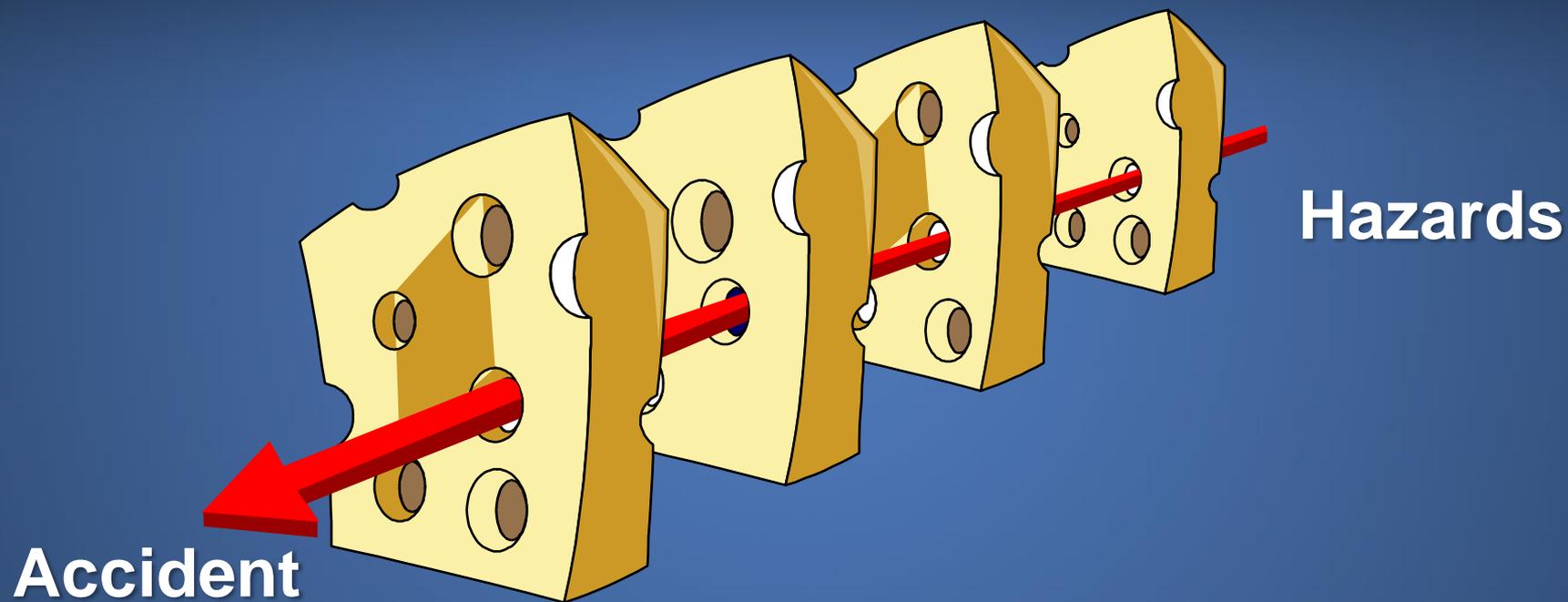
Chris Hart
Acting Chairman



Mark Rosekind
Member



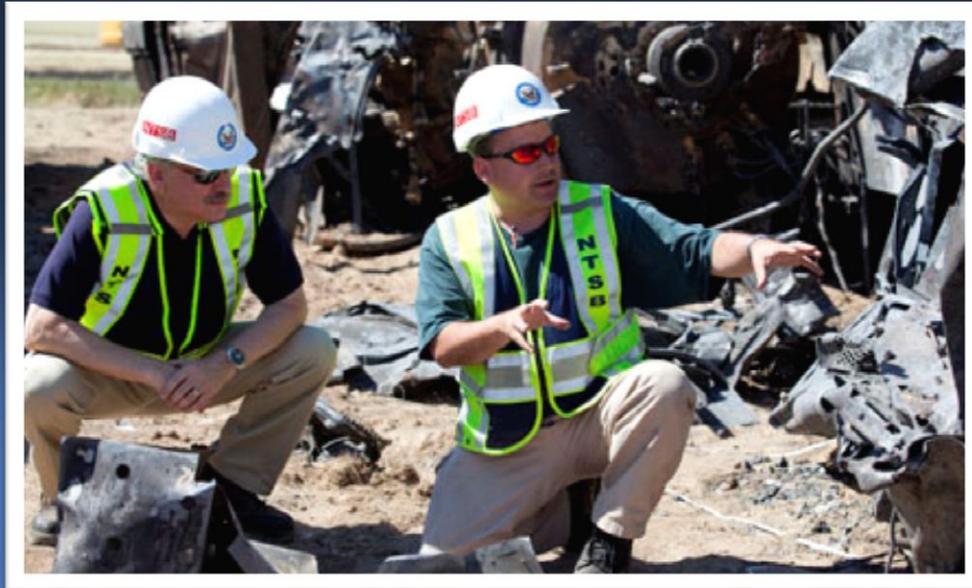
“Swiss Cheese” Model (Reason)



Successive layers of defenses, barriers, and safeguards



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June 24, 2012
Goodwell,
Oklahoma



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Key On-scene Events



Organizational Meeting

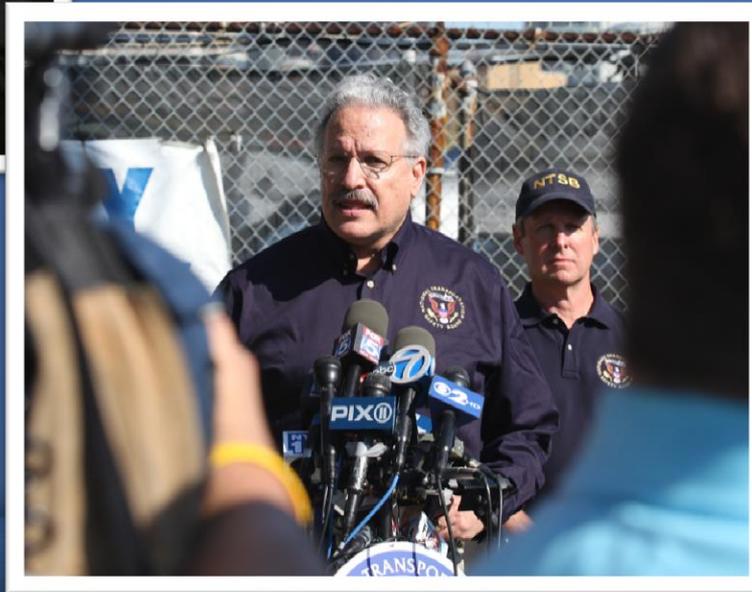
- Designate parties and party coordinators
- Establish and organize groups

Progress Meetings

- Summarize findings
- Info for briefings

Family Briefings

Press Briefings



NTSB Investigative Process



On-scene Investigation

- Organizational Meeting
- Groups and Parties
- Progress meetings
- Media Briefings
- Press Releases



Preliminary Report
Factual information



Public Hearing
Fact finding
Depositions
Witnesses
Docket



Board Meeting
Docket
Findings
Conclusions
Probable Cause
Safety Recommendations



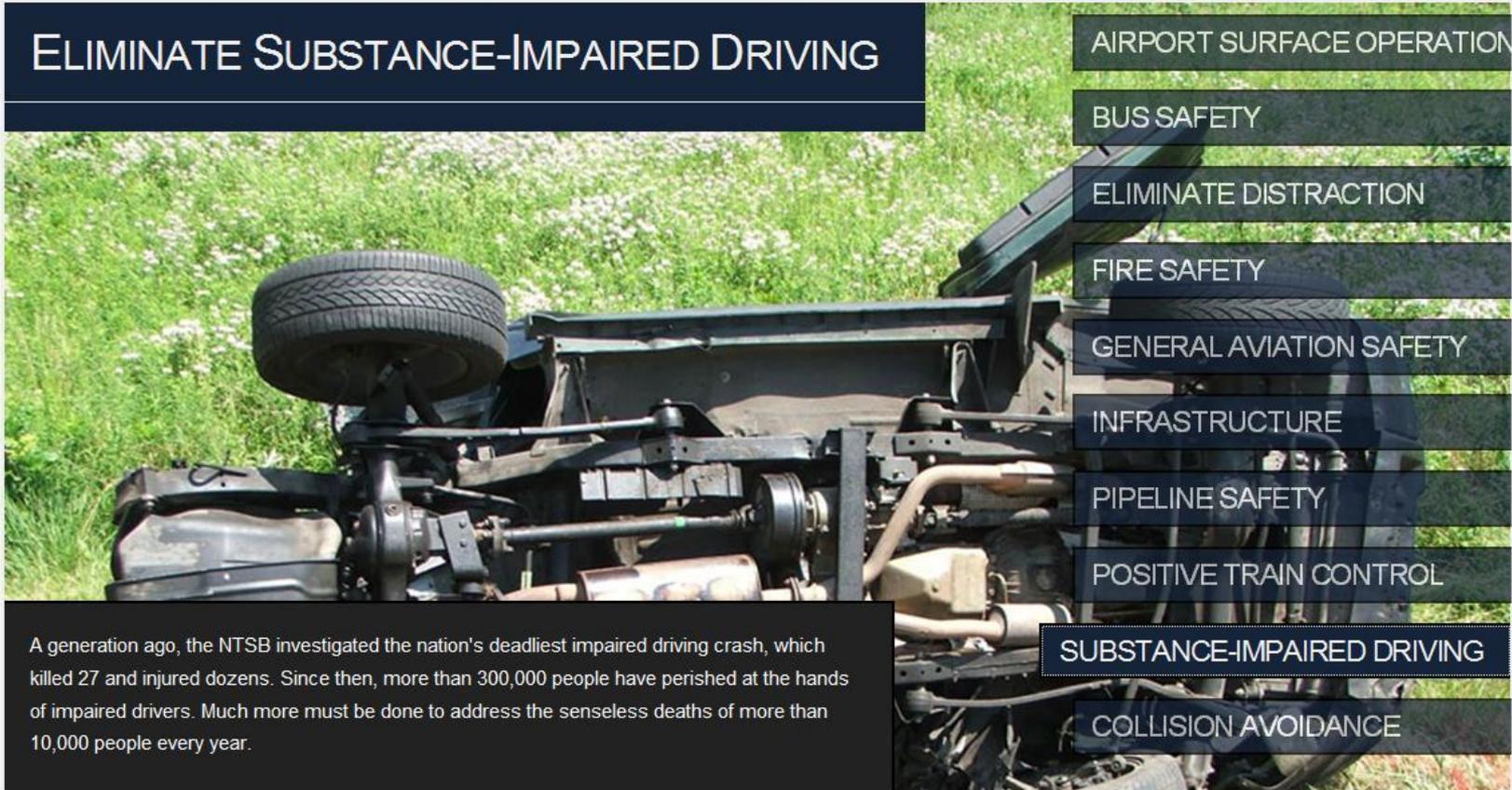
Final Report

Government in the Sunshine Act

MOST WANTED LIST

The Most Wanted List represents the NTSB's advocacy priorities. It is designed to increase awareness of, and support for, the most critical changes needed to reduce transportation accidents and save lives.

ELIMINATE SUBSTANCE-IMPAIRED DRIVING



A generation ago, the NTSB investigated the nation's deadliest impaired driving crash, which killed 27 and injured dozens. Since then, more than 300,000 people have perished at the hands of impaired drivers. Much more must be done to address the senseless deaths of more than 10,000 people every year.

AIRPORT SURFACE OPERATION

BUS SAFETY

ELIMINATE DISTRACTION

FIRE SAFETY

GENERAL AVIATION SAFETY

INFRASTRUCTURE

PIPELINE SAFETY

POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL

SUBSTANCE-IMPAIRED DRIVING

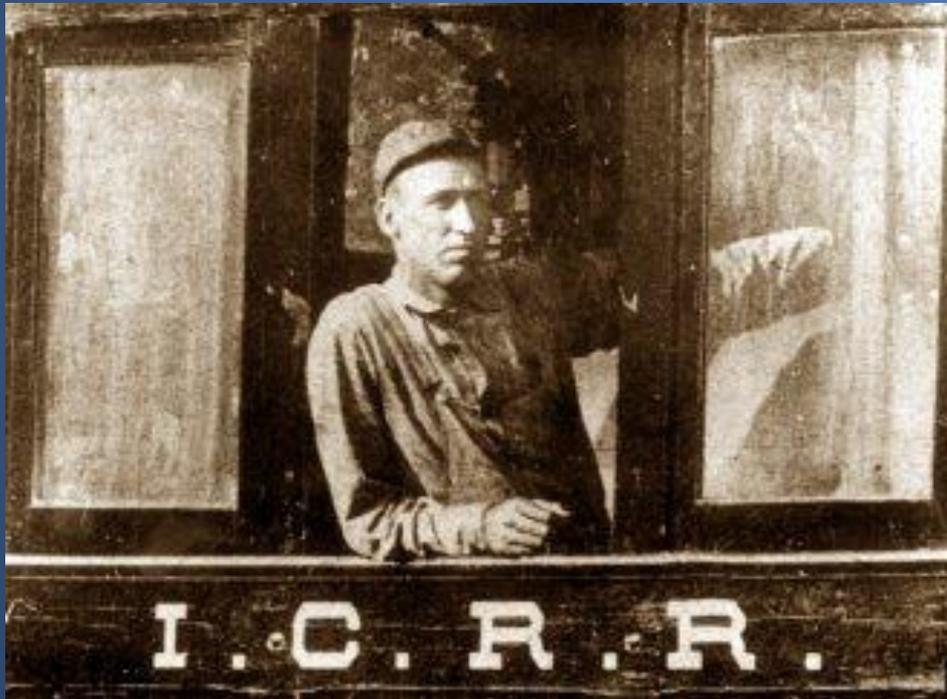
COLLISION AVOIDANCE



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Casey Jones: Famous Railroad Engineer

Fatal accident on April 30, 1900 at 3:52 AM



"Engineer on No.1 failed to answer flagman who was out proper distance. It is supposed did not see the flag."

'impossible to believe that an engineer of Jones's experience would have ignored a flagman and fuses (flares) and torpedoes exploded on the rail to alert him to danger.'



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**National
Transportation
Safety Board**

Track Path Animation

Collision Between Two BNSF Railway Freight Trains

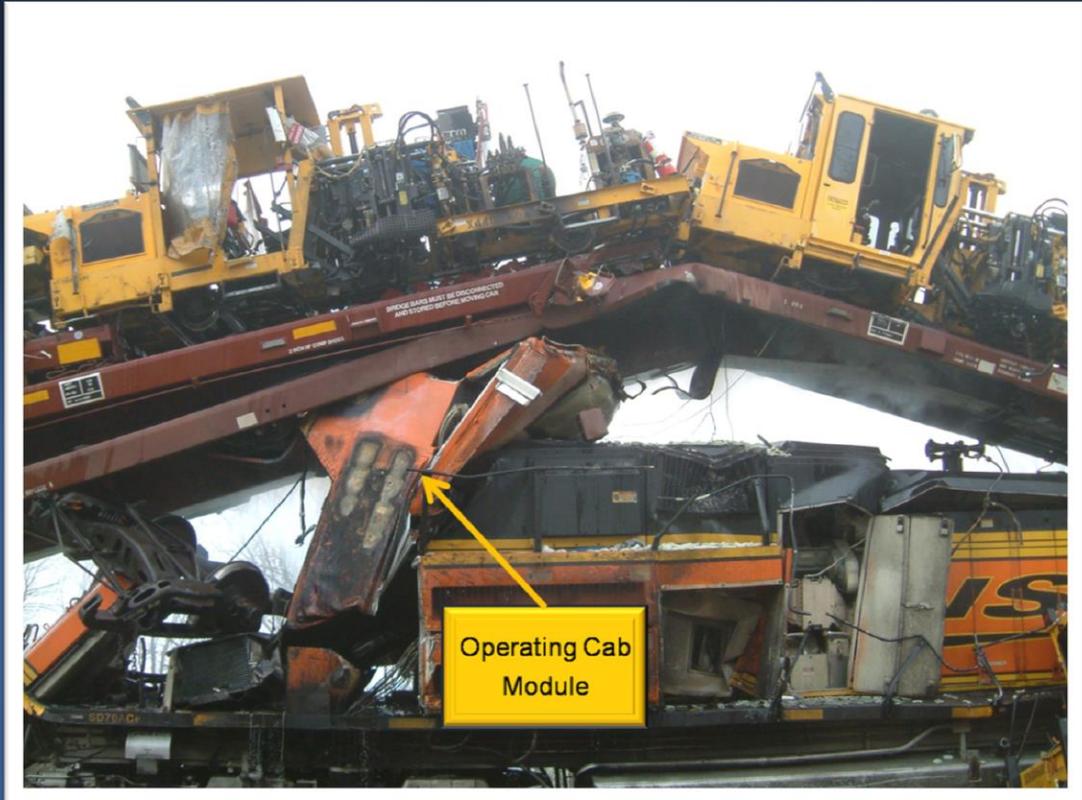
Red Oak, Iowa

April 17, 2011

DCA11FR002



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Probable Cause (fatigue)

“ . . . failure of the crew of the striking train to comply with the signal indication requiring them to operate in accordance with restricted speed requirements and stop short of the standing train because they had fallen asleep due to fatigue resulting from their irregular work schedules and their medical conditions.”



Four Fatigue Factors +

- Sleep loss
- Continuous hours of wakefulness
- Circadian/time of day
- Sleep disorders
- Other considerations



Fatigue Risks

Fatigue can degrade
every aspect of
human capability.

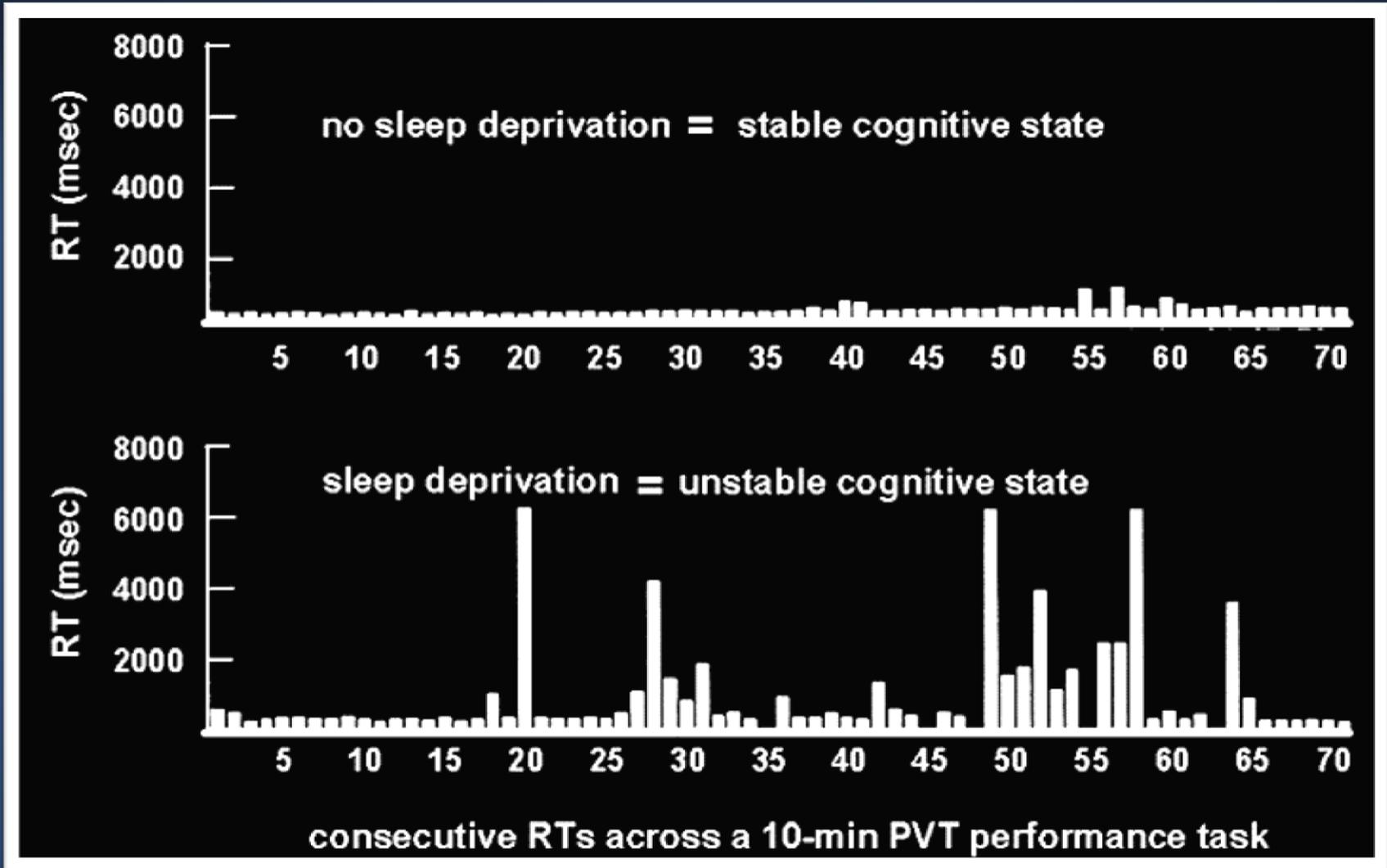


Fatigue Risks

- degraded 20 – 50%+:
 - reaction time
 - memory
 - communication
 - situational awareness
 - judgment
 - attention
 - mood
- increased:
 - irritability
 - apathy
 - attentional lapses
 - microsleeps



Fatigue and Reaction Times



Doran SM, Van Dongen HP, Dinges DF. Sustained attention performance during sleep deprivation: evidence of state instability. *Archives of Italian Biology: Neuroscience* 2001;139:253-267.



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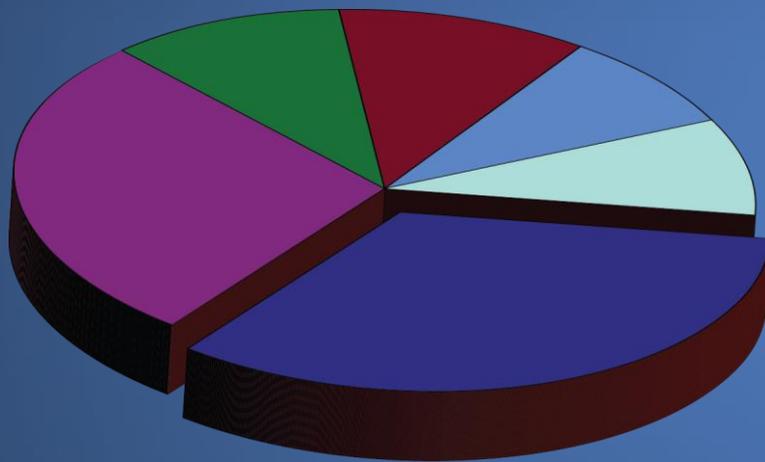
NTSB Recommendations

- MOST WANTED 1990 -2011
- >200 fatigue recommendations



Complex Issue:

Requires Multiple Solutions



- Scheduling Policies and Practices
- Education/Awareness
- Organizational Strategies
- Healthy Sleep
- Vehicle and Environmental Strategies
- Research and Evaluation



NTSB Safety Recommendations: Fatigue Status (May, 2012)

- Total: 194
- Open: 48
- Closed: 146
- CUN*: 26

CUN = closed unacceptable



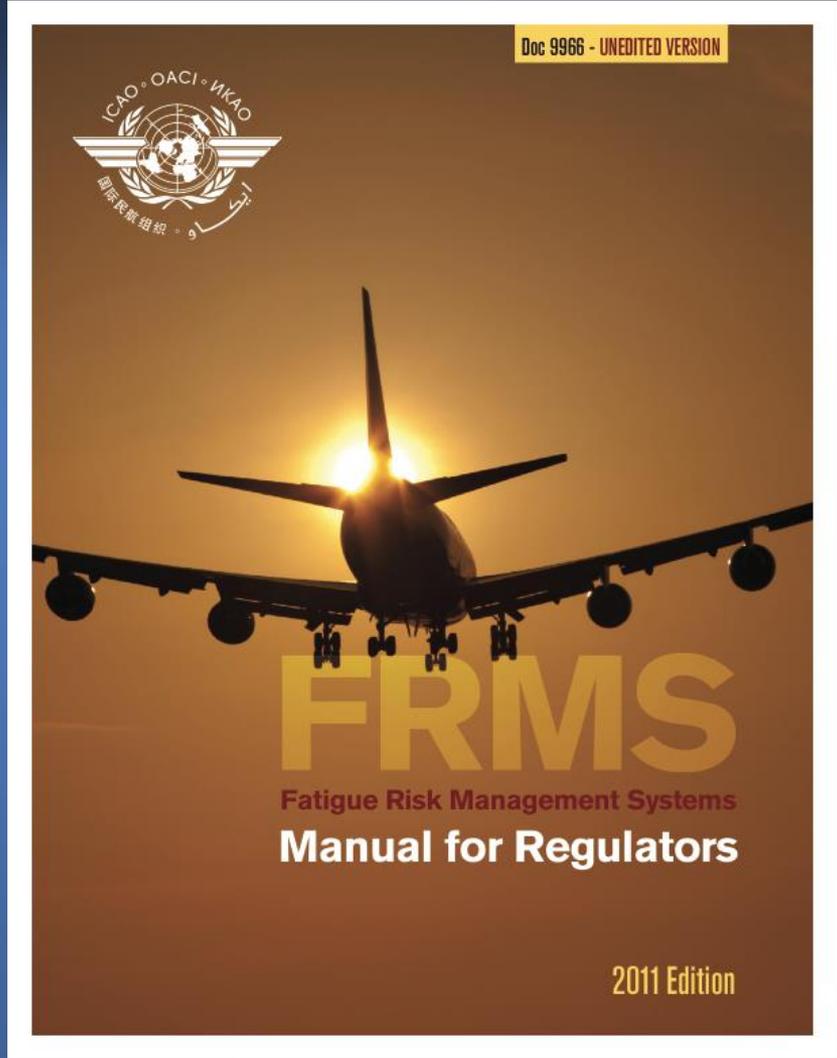
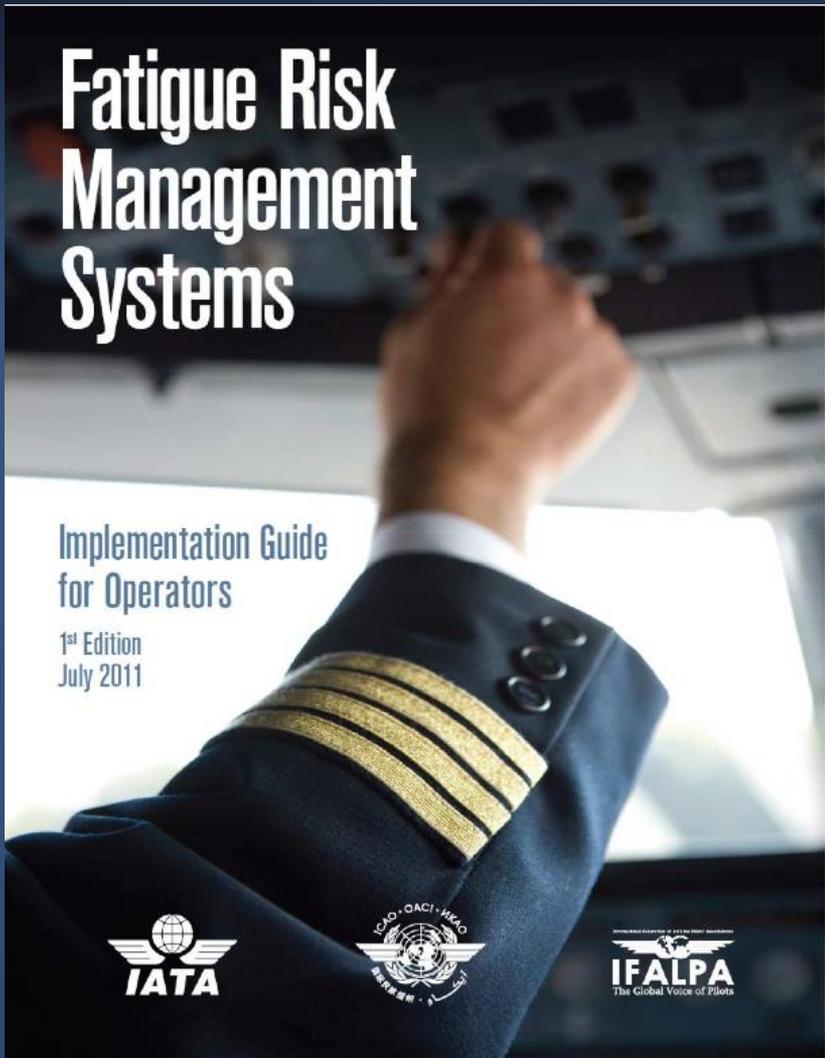
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NTSB Fatigue Recommendations: Fatigue Management Systems

- Develop guidance based on empirical and scientific evidence for operators to establish fatigue management systems
- Establish an ongoing program to monitor, evaluate, report on, and continuously improve fatigue management programs implemented by motor carriers to identify, mitigate, and continuously reduce fatigue-related risks for drivers.



Examples



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Distraction: 10 Years of NTSB Investigations



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Honorable John K. Lauber:

No Accident \neq
Safe Operation



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